

EXPLANATION OF NEW DATA FIELD IN FAST: Average Vehicle Age

Purpose

Beginning with the FY2006 FAST data call, FAST data entry will include a new data element, “Average Vehicle Age” specified in months. The purpose of collecting these data is to begin the process of measuring the affect of budget decisions on fleet performance.

Vehicles Affected

Average Vehicle Age will be collected in FAST only for your agency-owned vehicles. GSA Fleet vehicles and commercially-leased vehicles are not to be included.

Definitions

Average Vehicle Age: The difference between the last month of the relevant fiscal year (September) and month/year in which the vehicle was acquired, expressed in months. For example, within the context of the FY2006 FAST data call, a vehicle acquired in May 2006 would be considered 4 months old: 09/2006 minus 05/2006 = 4 months. A vehicle acquired in March 2000 in that same context of the FY2006 FAST data call would be considered 78 months old: 09/2006 minus 03/2000 = 78 months. For the two vehicles in the example above, the average age would be 41 months: 4 months plus 78 months = 82 months divided by 2 vehicles = average age of 41 months.

Acquisition Date: The month/year in which a vehicle entered your inventory. It may not have been placed in actual service that month, but it was in your official inventory.

Disposal Date: The month/year when a vehicle was dropped from your inventory. It may have been in storage for some period prior to that month/date, being prepped for disposal or awaiting a scheduled sale date, but it was still carried on your inventory.

Projected Acquisition Date: For purposes of projecting future acquisitions, use an estimated month/year when the bulk of vehicle deliveries may reasonably be expected. For example, if your fleet typically receives new passenger vehicles in the period February through June, you could pick April of the relevant year as the projected acquisition date for those vehicles.

Projected Disposal Date: For purposes of projecting future disposals, use an estimated month/year for disposals that coordinates with the above acquisition date of their replacements. For example, if it typically takes two months to process vehicles out of the fleet and get them sold, and you are using April as the projected acquisition date, you would use June of the relevant year as the projected disposal date for those vehicles.

Special Case: Used Vehicles

Agencies occasionally acquire vehicles that are not new through a variety of methods including seizure, forfeiture, and purchase. The number of used vehicles acquired by most agencies is so small that it will have little affect on average age; in this case, include such vehicles in the average age calculation without making any adjustment based on the age of the vehicles at the time they entered the fleet inventory. If an agency has a large inventory of used vehicles and if not accounting for the age of those vehicles at the time of acquisition by the fleet would result in a significant misstatement of the average age, the agency may choose to estimate the age of those used vehicles based on the model year of the vehicles in question rather than the acquisition month/year.